8th Grade Honors English  
Book Report #1

A truly well-well developed protagonist in a novel will be three dimensional; his/her actions, decisions and thoughts will be lifelike and realistic. In some novels; you will watch characters face problems similar to your own; in other situations, their conflicts are foreign to you, and as a result, you may be able to learn from their tribulations. It is safe to say that some characters are easier to relate to than others.

As an observer; it is easy to remove yourself from the situation and evaluate the choices that are made. Furthermore, it is often easy to note a character’s motives and see what truly makes a character “tick”.

Your assignment is to evaluate the choices that your protagonist makes throughout the course of the novel. What are the character’s motives? What motivates the character through the book? Personal ambition? Greed? Power, status, or fame? The desire to impress others? In this paper explain the major decisions that the main character faces, and why he/she makes the choices that she does. Based on these decisions, do you see the character as being morally sound. Or does the character make choices to promote his/her status?

This paper should be fairly specific. You should choose two or three specific incidents to relate, and tell how the character reacts. Furthermore, examine the choice(s) that are made, and tell why the character makes these choices. Finally, you should see if the motives have changed by the end of the book. Was the character initially motivated by greed, but is now motivated by an intrinsic need to do good? As a result, has the character’s motivations become better, worse, or the same? Can you make any reference about the character’s growth through the novel?